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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/605,733

10/22/2003

Irving Toivo Salmeen

FGT 1840 PA

2732

28549

7590

06/26/2008

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EXAMINER

A, MINH D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2821

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

06/26/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/605,733	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SALMEEN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> MINH D. A	<b>Art Unit</b> 2821	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/22/07</u> .  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                          |

***DETAILED ACTION***

This is a response to the Application's RCE submitted on May 01 2008. In virtue of this RCE, claims 1, 4-20 are currently presented in the instant applicant.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Stam (U.S 6, 403, 942).

Regarding claim 20, Stam discloses in figures 1-2 that, a method of operating a headlight system on a vehicle for adaptively illuminating a roadway to enhance visibility( figure 1), said method comprising the steps of: (transmitting section (201-202) and receiving section (204-205) for detecting at least one communication signal generated from at least one object that is external to said vehicle( figures 1-2, col.3, lines 34-51): and the controller (203) for controlling said head-light system(111) to adjust its illumination output, including beam shape(figure 2) on said roadway in response to said at least one communication signal. Col.col.4, lines 36-61.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1, 4-19 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Prior art does not teach that wherein said controller is operable to change at least one said beam illumination pattern emitted from at least one said emitter in response to at least one said object detection signal by adjusting at least one beam illumination parameter selected from the group consisting of beam amplitude, beam location, beam focus, beam angle and beam shape in combination with all limitations recited in independent claim 1.

Prior art does not teach that, wherein each said beam illumination pattern has associated beam illumination parameters including beam angle, beam focus, beam amplitude, beam position, and beam shape; and wherein said controller is operable to change at least one said beam illumination pattern in response to said second communication signal by adjusting at least one of said beam illumination parameters in combination with all limitations recited in independent claim 19.

The remaining dependent claims 4-18 are allowable for at least one above reason.

#### ***Citation of relevant prior art***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art Betzitza et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,265,968) discloses a Vehicle with object detection device.

Prior art Sugawara et al (U.S. Patent No. 7,000,721) discloses an optical detection apparatus designed to monitor front and lateral zones of vehicle.

Prior art Winner et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,580,385) discloses an object detection system.

Prior art Juds (U.S. Patent No. 5,463,384) discloses a collision avoidance system for vehicles.

### ***Inquiry***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh Dieu A whose telephone number is (571) 272-1817. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30 AM-2: 45 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Owens Douglas W can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner Minh A

Art Unit 2821

Application/Control Number: 10/605,733

Page 5

Art Unit: 2821

Date 6/21/08

/Douglas W Owens/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2821  
June 23, 2008